



## **Eighth Army Observance Message Women's History Month**

Women's History Month, commemorated in March, was established in 1986 as it aligned with International Women's Day and the National Women's History Week. This month celebrates Women's contributions to the United States. During Women's History Month, Eighth Army recognizes the important contributions made by Women Soldiers and Civilians.

Women in our ranks enabled the success of our Army. Women were first officially sent to war in 1918, where they served as telephone operators. These bilingual women, known as 'The Hello Girls', operated switchboards and connected communications across Europe. Their service as interpreters and operators improved critical communications and directly supported the United States' success during World War I.

Women have served in multiple capacities across the Army's history. One outstanding example is Harriet Tubman who, during the Civil War, served as a nurse, spymaster, and scout for the Union Army. Later, as a member of the Underground Railroad, she used the network to pass former slaves to freedom. Her contributions highlight the adaptability, courage and patriotism of the women serving our Army in many capacities.

We ask all members of this command to take a moment to reflect on the great legacy of Women in support of the U.S. Army and what they bring to the Fight every day. As we celebrate and honor those women during Women's History Month, let us honor and commemorate generations of noble service and sacrifice.

Pacific Victors!

**ROBERT H. COBB**  
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